

## THE WAR.

(CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.)

In actual possession of the fort, while Messrs. Chamberlain and Manning came over to the city, accompanied with a number of the Palmetto Guard, bearing the colors of the company. They were met at the pier by hundreds of citizens, and as they marched up the street to the General's quarters the crowd was swelled to thousands. Shouts rent the air and the wildest joy was manifested on account of the welcome tidings.

After the surrender a boat with an officer and ten men went from one of the four ships in the fleet to General Sumner, commanding on Morris Island, with a request that a merchant ship or one of the vessels of the United States be allowed to enter and take of the commander and garrison at Fort Sumter.

Gen. Sumner replied that if no hostilities were attempted during the night, and no effort was made to reinforce or retake Fort Sumter, he would give an answer at nine o'clock on Sunday morning.

The officer signified that he was satisfied with this and returned. This correspondent accompanied the officers of General Beauregard's staff on a visit to Fort Sumter. None but the officers were allowed to land, however. They went down in a steamer and carried three fire engines for the purpose of putting out the flames. The fire, however, had been previously extinguished by the exertions of Major Anderson and his men.

The visitors reported that Major Anderson surrendered because his quarters and barracks were destroyed, and he had no hope of reinforcements. The fleet lay idly during the thirty hours of the bombardment, and either could not or would not help him; besides, his men were prostrate from over exertion.

There were but five of them left, four badly, and one, it is thought, mortally, but the rest were worn out. The explosion of the shells were heard and seen from the city in the morning were caused by the burning of loaded shells. These were ignited by the fire, and could not be removed quick enough. The fire in the barracks was caused by the quantities of hot shot poured in from Fort Moultrie. Within Fort Sumter everything but the casemates is an utter ruin. The whole thing looks like a blackened mass of ruins. Many of the guns are dismounted. The side opposite the iron battery of Cummings Point is the hardest dealt with. The rifled cannon from this place played great havoc with Fort Sumter. The wall looks like a honeycomb. Near the top is a breach as big as a suit. The side opposite Fort Moultrie is honeycombed extensively, as is that opposite the floating battery.

Fort Moultrie is badly damaged. The officers' quarters and barracks are torn to pieces. The frame houses on the island are riddled with shot in many instances, and whole sides of houses are torn out.

The fire in Fort Sumter was put out and recaptured three times during the day.

Dr. Crawford, Major Anderson's surgeon, is slightly wounded in the face. None of the Carolinians are injured. Major Anderson and all his men are yet in Fort Sumter. I approached near enough to the wall to see him bid adieu. In addition to this conversation he had which have been repeated to me.

A boat was sent from the fort to-night to officially notify the fleet at the bar that Major Anderson had surrendered.

It is not known when the Carolinians will occupy Fort Sumter, or what is to be done with the vanquished. Every one is satisfied with the victory, and happy that no blood was shed.

In the city, after the surrender, bells were rung and cannon fired.

CHARLESTON, April 14, 1861.

The steamer Isabel is now steaming up and will take General Beauregard to Sumter, which will be turned over by Major Anderson to the Confederate States. Major Anderson and his command, it is reported, will proceed to New York in the Isabel.

CHARLESTON, April 14—P. M.

Major Anderson and his men leave to-night in the steamer Isabel, at eleven o'clock, for New York.

It was a thrilling scene when Major Anderson and his men took their formal leave of Fort Sumter.

WASHINGTON, April 14, 1861.

Mr. Wiley, of New York, had an interview with the President to-night. He left Charleston on Friday night, and says he saw the battle during that day. He says there was not an interval of two minutes between the firing on both sides after Major Anderson opened his fire, which was not until about seven o'clock A. M., two and a half hours after the Morris, Sullivan and James islands batteries had been pouring into Fort Sumter.

Mr. Wiley says Major Anderson worked his guns actively all day, until six o'clock Friday evening. The Carolinians were surprised at it, in view of the small number of men in the place.

Mrs. Doubleday received a dispatch to-day that the report that Capt. Doubleday was killed in Fort Sumter was not true. She is in great distress in consequence of the report that he was insane and in iron, but at the same time expresses indignation at the idea of surrendering the fort.

## IMPORTANT FROM MONTGOMERY.

Fort Pickens Reinforced—Arrest of a Lieutenant of the United States Navy and Seizure of His Despatches—The Surrender of Fort Sumter, &c., &c.

MONTGOMERY, April 13—P. M.

Fort Pickens was reinforced last night.

Major Chambers, of the Alabama army, has arrived here from Pensacola, bringing Lieutenant Reed, of the federal navy, as prisoner of war. [There is a mistake in the name of the officer arrested. See account of despatches to Fort Pickens and the federal fleet of Pensacola bar. He is held by the Secretary of War, who sent a detachment to arrest him.]

The lieutenant has been compelled to give up to the Secretary of War his despatches from Lieutenant Sumner to the government at Washington. The Attorney General's opinion is requested as to the law in his case. He violated his promise to report to General Bragg, and carried in secret despatches to Fort Pickens, showing to General Bragg other despatches, and failing to report himself on his return.

Despatches from Governor Pickens to the Secretary of War were read by the Clerk of the War Department from the executive buildings, in presence of President Davis and his cabinet.

Seven guns were fired in honor of the victory, and there is great rejoicing in all circles.

It is understood that Charleston harbor is blockaded. The news of the surrender of Fort Sumter was received with immense cheering by the people of this city.

Great crowds are gathered in the streets to-night, and the Confederate and Palmetto flags are flying everywhere. Cannon are firing, the bells ringing, and great rejoicing manifested everywhere.

LIEUT. REED WERENOT A PRISONER OF WAR. TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

I have to request you to correct a statement which appeared in your paper of this morning, reporting from Montgomery that I had been taken there from Pensacola, and as a prisoner of war. I have never been at Pensacola, and am now attached to the steam frigate Minnesota, at the Charleston Navy Yard, Massachusetts. Your obedient servant, REED WERDEN.

## IMPORTANT FROM VIRGINIA.

The Proceedings of the Virginia State Convention on the Surrender of Fort Sumter.

RICHMOND, Va., April 13, 1861.

The Virginia State Convention assembled to-day.

The Convention of the whole the first three sections of the proposed amendments to the constitution were adopted without material amendment.

A new section, offered by Mr. Wise, providing that compensation be made in all cases where property is taken or held to service or to labor, has been or may be adopted for the public use, as in improvement, &c., was taken up.

The 11th section, prohibiting the importation of slaves, was taken up.

Amendments to it were offered, and finally it was adopted, with an amendment providing that such law be so amended that it apply to the Southern States which have or may declare their separation, in case their separation be a "known and continued."

The debate is turned exclusively upon the surrender of Fort Sumter.

Members, Carlisle on 4th day deprecated the action of South Carolina in firing, and expressed devotion to the Union and stripes.

Leading secessionists replied, and applauded the gallantry of South Carolina, &c. maintained that, whatever the Convention might do, it is people would now carry the State out of the Union.

received from Governor Letcher, enclosing a despatch from Governor Pickens, dated Charleston, to-day.

The despatch gives an account of Friday's bombardment of Fort Sumter, and says that not a man on our batteries is hurt. It adds: "Fort Sumter was fired on by the fire on our batteries. Our iron battery did great damage to the fort on its southern wall. Our shells fell freely into the fort, and the effect is supposed to be serious, as they are not firing from the fort this morning. Our battery demolished three of the largest of the columbiads of the enemy. We will take the fort, and sink the fleet, if they attempt to force their way up the channel. If they attempt to land elsewhere we can whip them. We have now nearly seven thousand men on the fort, and a reserve of ten thousand on the railroads. War is commenced, and we triumph or we perish. Please let me know what Virginia will do."

To the Governor Letcher stated that he replied that the Convention would determine.

Mr. Wyson offered a resolution, in view of the late information, recommending the people of Virginia at once to unite in defense of their institutions and make common cause with the Confederate States.

Without taking action on this resolution the Convention adjourned.

It was openly stated in debate that the Southern army would march through Virginia to the North and that thousands would join them.

Mr. Perry said this would be invasion and should be repelled.

## THE COURSE OF OUR CIVIL WAR.

SUCCEINT ACCOUNT OF THE LEADING EVENTS.

Sudden movements of the administration—activity in military and naval circles—embellishments and preparations in the metropolitan—excitement in the South—chronological sketch of the occurrences preceding this war, &c., &c.

Now that civil war is upon us, with all its terrible reality, and the reduction of Fort Sumter is still fresh before the public, we have deemed it advisable to prepare, for the information of our readers, a regular and succinct account of the various occurrences that have gradually led to the great event of Friday and Saturday last. We have no doubt that such a synopsis of these important events will, at the present juncture, be acceptable to the entire community.

It is unnecessary to go any further back than to the events of a few weeks. The close of the month of March was not marked by any activity on the part of the federal government, or by any threatening demonstrations by the secessionists of South Carolina. On the contrary, several Cabinet councils were held at Washington, and, according to all the reports that transpired, a decision had been come to for the evacuation of the beleaguered garrisons of Forts Pickens and Sumter. This design of the government, having been reported by the press throughout the country, soon gained confidence, and people began to look forward to a peaceable solution of the very grave questions which were perplexing the country.

Sudden naval and military movements.

It was not until the beginning of the present month that the federal administration began to evince a warlike disposition. On the 4th of April despatches from Washington announced that the army and navy were suddenly being put on a war footing, and the knowledge that the movements looked towards Spain, and that it grew out of the designs of that government on the neighboring island of St. Domingo. So firmly was this opinion implanted on the public mind that an officer of the navy declared it as his opinion that a rupture would occur with Spain in less than thirty days from the beginning of the month. Orders were issued from the Navy Department to several vessels to hold themselves in readiness for immediate service. Among other ships of war, the Powhatan, whose crew had been discharged on the 1st of April, was ordered to re-ship her full complement immediately and prepare for sea. Movements were now on foot indicating the speedy execution of the governmental policy. Greater activity prevailed in the army and navy than had been known since the war with Mexico. Troops were placed on board ship with sealed orders, all the vessels of war on foreign stations were ordered home, and the superiors of the various navy yards were directed to use their best efforts in making ready every available vessel for sea.

Excitement in the South.

These formidable movements on the part of the administration could not fail to arouse the vigilance of the seceded States, and more especially of South Carolina. Some leading Southern men at once declared that the armaments in preparation were intended to coerce the South, and the reports from Washington that ships were to be sent to blockade the harbor of Charleston and the mouth of the Mississippi met with ready credence. Those who were in the secret of the administration openly declared that the country would soon see whether the government had a policy or not. Meanwhile the most intense silence prevailed in official circles, and the real intentions of the government could only be gathered from the events which were being daily developed.

The excitement in the South, consequent on the sudden movements of the administration, was wide and intense. In the city of Charleston, and throughout South Carolina, the most undisciplined passions prevailed. The hesitancy and delay of the government in evacuating Fort Sumter led them to believe the reports that secret operations were in progress for its immediate relief. Acting upon this surmise, the strategic defenses of the city were made as perfect as military skill and exertion could make them, and the South Carolinians, resting on their arms, awaited the result. Among the mass of the people the excitement was no less intense.

On the 4th of April all kinds of rumors got into circulation among others that Fort Sumter would be attacked in a few days, and that the attack would be made from the fort. Nothing but a light or an unconditional surrender of the fortification would be tolerated. Advice from Montgomery of the 6th inst. directed that the supplies from the city to Major Anderson should be cut off, and communication between the fort and federal authorities forbidden, and, for the last time, Captain Talbot left with despatches for Washington.

Serious aspect of affairs.

The appearance of things now really began to be very gloomy; the prospect of danger was imminent, and men commenced to prepare for the worst. As soon as an attack upon Fort Sumter and Pickens became probable, the President received a number of telegraphic communications from leading politicians in all parts of the North and West, urging him not to surrender anything to the seceders. That the moment he did intend to do so was clearly to be seen in the continued activity in fitting out transports and ships of war, and in the moving and contrabanding of United States troops. At the end of the first week in April there was nothing to be heard of but the movements of troops to the city of New York. At Fort Mifflin, Housatonic and Lafayette, and on Governor's Island, the fire of warlike preparation was continually heard. At the Brooklyn Navy Yard extra men were put to work to hasten the completion of the steam ship of war Powhatan, and the frigates Housatonic, Watkin, Porcy, Savannah and Potomac, and the coast guard steamer Gunpowder, shot, shell, and all other desiderata of war, were transported from one place to another in immense quantities, giving great significance to other operations.

Unhindered relief of Fort Pickens.

In consequence of the inevitable silence of the administration, nothing positive had as yet transpired as to the destination of the troops and vessels which were being so actively prepared for some important service. About this time reports were received from Texas, setting forth that Gov. Houston was in a precarious position from the daring incursions of Indians and Mexicans on the Texas frontier, and, in the case of St. Domingo, people began to console themselves that the expedition was to check these outrages, so anxious were they that the belt should fall upon the heads of any but their own brethren. But the activity in the federal navy gave point to operations against some great fortification, and as it was very generally known that Sumter would have to be surrendered, all eyes were turned to Fort Pickens, Pensacola, and likely to be the destination of the fleet. Now rumors came out in circulation that troops would, in such a case, be sent from South Carolina to the assistance of General Bragg, who was investing Fort Pickens. Despatches from Pensacola at the same time stated that Bragg, with an army of nearly six thousand Confederate States troops, was ready for immediate action should any attempt be made to reinforce the fort. The precise condition of things inside of Fort Pickens was not known, but it was thought that its stock of provisions was nearly exhausted, and the garrison inadequate to meet the great Southern army now besieging it.

Fort Sumter again.

The popular mind had scarcely settled on this point when the whole community was thrown into another fever of excitement by the most startling news from Washington. A portion of the fleet fitted out at New York was ordered to proceed forthwith to Charleston, and to victual Fort Sumter, peacefully, if possible, or by force if necessary. Supplies were to be thrown into that stronghold at all hazards. Major Anderson was directed, in the event of the federal vessels being opposed by the secessionists, to open his batteries. Such, in brief, was the government programme for Charleston harbor. Our reports from that point confirmed the statement that the supplies of the garrison from the city had been cut off. Intense excitement prevailed there on the receipt of this news. Five thousand men were ordered out, the batteries were strengthened, and every preparation made to repel the federal forces.

The active exertions of the government.

To meet the emergency caused a corresponding activity in all the dock yards, armories and military depots throughout the North. The arsenals of Troy and Watervliet were never so fully occupied for many a year. The creating of blocks, the clanging of hammers and the hum of midnight labor resounded through every manufacturing of arms.

In a few days orders were issued from Washington to have the Wahab, Vincennes and several other vessels, and the Jamestown at Philadelphia, detailed for immediate service. Everything pointed to the culmination of the events which were so long trembling in the balance. Numerous large transports were employed by the government for the conveyance of soldiers and war material, and the signs of the times betokened that the administration was preparing for a long and bloody struggle. Within ten days from the first of April over eleven hundred men were sent from Fort Hamilton and Governor's Island. The recruiting offices in the city were daily engaged in enrolling men for the federal service, and the drill sergeant on Governor's Island found that his berth was no longer a bare room. On the 6th of April the frigate Powhatan was ready for sea, and with her armament of ten heavy guns and four hundred men prepared to sail as convoy to the transports Atlantic, Baltic and Illinois. On the 8th the Atlantic sailed with Barry's battery (four guns and ninety-one men), four hundred soldiers and a large store of supplies. The same morning the steam cutter Harriet Lane, Captain J. P. Fanning, eight guns and one hundred men, sailed for Charleston harbor. Late at night the transport Baltic, with twenty-two boats, stores and two hundred recruits from Governor's Island, and the transport Illinois, with five hundred cases of munitions, stores, three hundred soldiers, and the steamer Powhatan, sailed from this harbor. On the whole, besides the Powhatan, eleven vessels were ordered to be in readiness, with an aggregate force of 256 guns and 4,200 men. There was now not the slightest doubt that the first blow of the rival forces would be struck at Sumter, and consequently the whole nation turned their eyes to that locality.

Naval force sent to Charleston.

The following list embraces the names, with armaments and troops, of the fleet despatched from this city and Washington to Charleston harbor:—

Vessel.	Guns.	Men.
Ship of war Powhatan	10	280
Ship of war Atlantic	11	270
Ship of war Baltic	11	270
Ship of war Illinois	11	270
Ship of war Harriet Lane	8	100
Ship of war Powhatan	8	100
Ship of war Atlantic	8	100
Ship of war Baltic	8	100
Ship of war Illinois	8	100
Ship of war Harriet Lane	8	100
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